

THE ASYLUM

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Spring, 1991


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The Asylum

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Books about U.S. silver and gold coins prior to 1837 and pioneer and territorial gold

by Jeff Rock

This is the third part of Jeff's bibliography.

Hurlbut, Clarence J. *Relative rarity of United States silver dollars*. Bethesda, 1961. 16 pp.

A monograph devoted to the rarity of silver dollars from 1794-1935. Although nothing new can be learned from this booklet the author does take an interesting approach. Not recommended for anyone other than the die-hard bibliomaniac who must have every book published. Available for around \$5.

Judd, J. Hewitt, Walter H. Breen, and Abe Kosoff. *United States pattern, experimental and trial pieces*. Racine, 1959. 253 pp., ill.

Later editions of this book were published in 1962, 1965, 1970, 1974, 1977, and 1983. The latest edition is indispensable, the standard reference. It completely revises the Adam-Woodin book described at the beginning of this bibliography. Archival research by Walter Breen and valuations by Abe Kosoff balance the original text written by Judd. Another of the volumes which belong in every library whether a collector owns patterns or not. Copies of the first edition are scarce and generally bring \$50. Subsequent editions bring \$10-\$15, with the latest selling for around \$20.

Kagin, Donald H. *Private gold coinage of the United States*. New York: Arco Publishing Co., 1981. 406 pp., ill.

Now the standard reference in the field, this work started off as a doctoral dissertation, and with the help of hobby giants Walter Breen and Henry Clifford became a full-fledged reference work. The historical detail is the most exhaustive published, with much of the information never having been made public before. The appendix which interests most collectors is the complete listing of issues, including patterns and die trials. Halftones of most issues are provided, as well as estimates of rarity. The book was published at \$30 but copies have been available for about half that. A limited number of copies in full leather, with a leather slipcase, were produced and have sold for from \$150 to \$200.

Kaplan, Sol. *History of Augustus Humbert and the fifty dollar slug*. Cincinnati, n.d. (ca 1955-60). 5 pp.

A brief look at the man and the coin. The text contains a few errors and notable omissions. Listed not for its reference value but as an interesting piece that will fit well into any collector's library. Scarce. Copies sell for around \$20.

[Kenny, Richard D. Early American medalists and die-sinkers prior to the Civil War. 24 pp., halftones and line cuts.

Originally published as Vol. 21, No. 1 of *The coin collector's journal* in 1954. Presents information on engravers and die sinkers responsible for territorial and private gold coins as well as mint engravers. Generally available for about \$10. A typically low quality Durst reprint was issued in 1982 and is available for around \$5.]

Kimmell, Jerry. *Kimmell's analysis of pioneer gold*. The author, 1974. 44 pp.

A monograph devoted to the auction appearance of private gold coins. The author examined over a hundred important auctions, from the 1878 Clemens sale through sales of 1973 and has listed all auction appearances found. An invaluable tool for the researcher. Hard to find. Copies have sold for around \$35.

Kosoff, Abe. *United States dimes from 1796: a new standard classification with estimate and recent sales prices*. New York, 1945. 25 pp., 4 plates.

This monograph, originally published as the dime section of Numismatic Gallery's auction catalog of the F.C.C. Boyd collection, was intended to become the standard reference in the field. It contains many errors and omissions but did serve collectors for over thirty years. Lot numbers from the original sale are given, as well as estimated and actual sale prices, the latter mostly lower than the former. Available for around \$15. The 1964 second edition, issued in 1964 from Kosoff's new offices in Encino, added to the first edition a column of current values which shows the amazing increase in prices in less than two decades. The revised edition is available for around \$10.

_____. *Pioneer gold coinage of the west*. Sol Kaplan, 1964. 24 pp., ill.

A brochure looking at the pioneer, territorial and pattern pieces from the Kenyon V. Painter collection, with extensive descriptions of some issues. Not a complete overview, as types and varieties Painter lacked were not even mentioned in the text. The softcover issue sells for \$20-\$25, while the deluxe hardcover issue, usually signed by Kaplan, commands a price of over \$50.

_____. *An illustrated history of United States coins depicting the proposed designs as well as the accepted types*. Encino, 1962. 76 pp., ill.

Halftones and descriptions of coins from the collection of Dr J. Hewitt Judd. Fascinating reading, even if it does sound a bit like an auction catalog, complete with lot numbers and pedigrees. The softcovered issue is available for around \$10; the hardcover usually brings double that amount.

_____. *Abe Kosoff remembers*. New York, 1981. 392 pp., ill. (poor halftones.)

A compilation of the many columns with the same name from the pages of *Coin world*. A fun-filled, nostalgic trip back in time, with glimpses of collectors and collections of the past. Although Kosoff's credentials as an informed numismatist have been questioned, he was present at some of the most fascinating times our hobby has seen, and he writes about those times admirably, even if fiction is occasionally more abundant than fact. The softcover issue sells for \$20, while the hardcover usually brings \$25 and the deluxe hardcover \$40.

Lee, Ed. *California gold, quarters, halves, dollars: a descriptive list of privately issued, interesting and historical coins of small denominations*. Glendale, 1932. 93 pp., 1 plate.

The first book devoted solely to California fractional gold, long used as the standard reference. The plate shows only a few coins, and the descriptions often make it difficult to attribute pieces. Original copies are quite scarce and when found usually command upwards of \$100.

Lee, Kenneth W. *California gold dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars*. Glendale, 1970. 138 pp.

The author, who was Ed Lee's son, continued his father's interest in California fractional gold and added many new specimens to their collection. This book, which describes both the previously known and newly discovered specimens with a new cataloging system, quickly became the reference which was standard until publication of the Breen-Gillio work detailed above. This first edition, often found with a 1970 guide to valuations laid in, sells for around \$15 to \$20. The revised, second edition, published by George Frederick Kolbe Publications, Santa Anna, is 120 pages long and added photographs of all known varieties. The photography was done by noted numismatist Jack Collins and is of his usual high quality. Many collectors still use the Lee work as their primary reference, and auction houses occasionally offer pieces attributed only to Lee. Copies of the second edition sell for around \$25-\$35. Fifteen copies were printed on heavy paper and contain two Cibachrome™ plates. This deluxe issue has commanded a price of around \$250.

Matthews, George D. *The coinage of the world, ancient and modern*. New York, 1876. 305 pp., line cuts.

Although devoted mainly to foreign coins, this book contains some items on colonial and early U.S. coins. Background reading only, but easily one of the most affordable pieces of numismatic literature over a hundred years old, as copies generally sell for around \$25.

McCloskey, John. *America's silver coinage, 1794-1891*. New York: American Numismatic Society, 1986. 36 pp.

Published as "Handbook #6" by the ANS, this book was issued as a supplement to the third Coinage of the Americas conference, which dealt with silver coinage. A well written and informative overview, sure to be of interest to every collector. Copies are still available from the ANS for \$6. A special boxed edition which includes thirty six color slides is available for \$25.

McClure, Dudley L. *Tales of the golden beavers*. Iola: Krause Publications, 1977. 64 pp., ill.

A look at Oregon territory coinage. Well researched and illustrated, this work goes into far greater detail than the Adams, Breen, or Kagin books described above. Copies may still be available from the publisher at the issue price of about \$15.

McGarry, Sheridan L. *Mormon money*. 1962. 48 pp., ill. (poor halftones)

A look at the various monies issued by the Church of the Latterday Saints. Although the author looks primarily at the paper money, the gold coins and the enigmatic 1846 brass tokens are also described. The wealth of background information makes the work quite valuable to the researcher. Luckily, it is quite inexpensive, since copies are readily available for under \$5.

McIlvaine, Arthur D. *The silver dollars of the United States of America*. New York: American Numismatic Society, 1941. 35 pp., 6 plates.

Number 95 of the society's "Numismatic notes and monographs". A general overview of the silver dollars from 1794 to 1935. As in all ANS publications, the plates are of exceptionally high quality. Available for around \$25.

Mickley, Joseph J. *Dates of United States coins and their degree of rarity*. Philadelphia, 1858. 4 pp.

The only published work of the man who is generally considered America's first numismatist. It lists the coins of each year, along with notations for common, rare, and very rare. The final pages list thirteen years of pattern coinage. An interesting and historically very important item. Quite rare. Copies have sold for around \$200.

Mumey, Nolie. *Clark, Gruber and Company (1860-1865): a pioneer Denver mint: history of their operation and coinage*. Denver, 1950. 93 pp., ill.

A very thorough look at the coinage of the first Denver mint and bank, with a great amount of information not found in any other source, including the more recent Kagin and Breen works described above. Quite scarce. Eight hundred copies numbered and signed by the author were printed. These have routinely fetched \$100 to \$125 and are in constant demand.

Newlin, Harold P. *A classification of the early half dimes of the United States with a few remarks on their types, varieties, rarity, etc., etc.* Philadelphia, 1883. 24 pp., two photographic plates.

Long the standard reference for the series and still one of the most sought-after volumes in numismatic literature. Of the one hundred copies originally printed only forty hardcovered copies contained the photographs. The quite rare plated edition has reached \$2000, while the issue without plates has brought a very respectable \$1000. Interestingly enough, the plates were originally produced for the sale of the Newlin collection by Haseltine, April 10, 1883, although none was issued with the catalog. Several reprints were produced, including one in 12 pages by Hewitt Brothers in 1933, available for under \$5. A few were issued with photographic plates; one of these has brought over \$150 at auction. A scarce variant lacks the words "Reprint edition 1933" on the cover. I have seen only a few copies of this; they will undoubtedly continue to be unappreciated. In about 1975 the B&B Coin Co. of Fairmont issued a 23 page exact reprint which includes copies of the original covers. It is available for around \$15. A reprint with plates is included in the 1975 *The United States half dimes*, issued by Quarterman Publications, which is listed here under the name of the senior author, Daniel Valentine.

Newman, Eric P., and Kenneth E. Bressett. *The fantastic 1804 dollar*. Racine, 1962. 144 pp., ill.

One of the greatest numismatic books ever written. The authors diligently track down the mystery surrounding America's most famous coin. The conclusion that "The King of American Coins" is an imposture" has certainly not damaged the value of the coin! Words alone cannot do justice to this book. Buy a copy and read it thoroughly. I guarantee that you'll be impressed! Available for around \$15-\$20 and well worth it. Sixteen review copies were printed early in 1962, before the discovery of the King of Siam proof set. When the historic set became known production of the book was halted and the authors quickly revised their text to include the new information. These copies are highly desirable and have brought over \$200 in private sales.

Overton, Al C. *Early half dollar varieties: a supplement*. The Author, 1964. 19 pp., ill.

Published as a supplement to the Beistle volume, which had been printed some 35 years earlier, this booklet details many of the new die varieties discovered in the intervening years and illustrates the two 1817/14 varieties. Overton used this supplement as the starting point for his work on bust halves, the next listing. Quite scarce, with copies missing from some of the largest numismatic libraries as well as from the libraries of specialists in the series. No auction records but doubtlessly worth \$25 or more.

_____. *Early half dollar varieties 1794-1836*. Colorado Springs, 1967. 349 pp., ill.

The standard reference in the field. The first edition is full of errors and quite difficult to use for attributions. Literature dealer Jack Collins, in his first auction catalog, relates that much of the information contained in this work was obtained from John Cobb, who had close to 3000 bust halves and had made extensive notes concerning varieties. Learning that Overton was working on a similar publication, he offered to collaborate and sent a copy of his manuscript to Overton. When the book was published there was no mention of Cobb. In disgust, he sold his collection to a southern-California dealer who in turn sold the finest examples to Al Overton! The first edition sells for around \$25. The 274 page 1970 edition has much better illustrations and is quite a bit easier to use. There have been several printings of this second edition, and it should still be available for around \$30. A supplement issued by the Bust Half Nut Club in 1981, revised in 1983, details several discoveries made since publication of the Overton book. This is obtainable for around \$7.

Piper, Richard. *The elusive 1836 reeded edge half dollars*. Wheaton, 1976. 61 pp., ill.

An interesting and extremely informative monograph devoted to the 1836 reeded edge half dollar, its design, its manufacture, and some scholarly opinions on whether it is a pattern or a regular issue United States coin. Few monographs have been written on a single coin, though there are many coins worthy of such close scrutiny. The present volume should be in the library of every collector with an interest in early silver coinage. Scarce, as are most privately printed books. I searched over two years to find a copy. Don't expect to find one for under \$15.

Prime, W.C. *Coins, medals, and seals, ancient and modern, illustrated and described, with a sketch of the history of coins and coinage, instructions for young collectors, tables of comparative rarity, price lists of English and American coins, medals, and tokens, &c., &c.* New York, 1861. 294 pp., line cuts.

A lively piece of background reading, portions of which were reprinted in *The colonial newsletter* more than a century after its initial publication! Luckily still available for around \$40.

Raymond, Rossiter W. *Mineral resources of the states and territories west of the Rocky Mountains.* Washington, 1869. 256 pp., line cuts.

A government-sponsored look at the mining and assaying activities in California, Nevada, Montana, and Idaho. Of special interest to the numismatist are the portions dealing with assays of bullion by such firms as Blake & Co. Quite scarce. I have recorded only a recent private sale at \$125.

_____. *Statistics of mines and mining in the states and territories west of the Rocky Mountains.* Washington, 1870. 805 pp., line cuts, 4 folding plates.

At least four editions were issued, one a year, 1870-1873. All are quite scarce, and I can find only one auction record, over twenty years old. Super collector John J. Ford ably cataloged two editions sold in New Netherland's 59th sale: "Both volumes contain exhaustive data on mines, mining and mining companies in the Western states and territories, plus much technical information on the mechanical appliances of mining and the metallurgical processes. However, their real value lies not in the wealth of statistical and technical material they contain, but in the numerous geographic, historical and human interest facts mentioned." If copies appear at auction they should easily sell for from \$100 to \$150.

Raymond, Wayte. *The Stickney 1804 dollar.* New York, 1931. 14 pp., ill.

A remarkable publication devoted to the pedigree of the Stickney 1804 dollar, which Raymond had purchased in 1923 as part of the Col. Ellsworth collection. The coin later went to William Atwater in a private sale. This pamphlet prints a lengthy letter from Matthew Stickney, the original owner of the coin, to Edward Cogan, the first full-time coin dealer in the United States. Also included are letters from T.L. Comparette, then curator of the mint collection; Col. Ellsworth; and Wayte Raymond. Almost certainly produced at Atwater's insistence, this monograph is quite rare. The only record I have is a private sale at \$35.

_____. *Private gold coins struck in the United States 1830-1861: a complete illustrated list of the various coins issued by private assayers in Georgia, Carolina, Colorado, Utah, Oregon and California.* New York, 1931. 32 pp., ill.

A brief look at the various pioneer and territorial issues, none of which are covered in any great detail. The halftones are of low quality. Still in great demand by collectors. Soft covered it sells for around \$15; the very scarce issue covered in brown morocco brings over \$100.

_____. *Standard catalogue of United States coins and currency from 1652 to the present day*. New York, 1934. ill.

This was the collector's bible of its day, occupying much the same position as today's popular Redbook. Eighteen editions were published between 1934 and 1957. The various titles included *The standard catalogue of United States coins and tokens from 1652 to the present day* and *The standard catalogue of United States coins from 1652 to the present day*. Early editions are scarce and bring from \$35 to \$50; later editions generally bring around \$20. The final edition, edited by John J. Ford, Jr. and completely rewritten by Walter Breen, is the most useful and usually brings \$30. Deluxe copies, usually interleaved with cross-section paper, were issued in limited numbers some years and are priced from \$75 to \$150.

Reiver, Jules. *Variety identification manual for United States half dimes 1794-1837*. Wilmington, 1984. 38 pp., ill.

One of Reiver's popular and extremely helpful quick finders, which through the use of four letters and numbers allow a collector to quickly identify what variety he has. Current rarity ratings are given. A worthwhile booklet, available for around \$10.

_____. *Variety identification manual for United States quarter dollars 1794-1838*. Wilmington, 1987. 48 pp., ill.

Another quick finder, this one devoted to the early quarter dollars of the United States. Of great importance to the collector of early silver, as the revised rarity ratings of these pieces have not been published elsewhere. Still available for around \$10.

_____. *Variety identification manual for United States reeded edge half dollars 1836-1839*. Wilmington, 1988. 60 pp., ill.

This quick finder is devoted to what most collectors feel are the four toughest years in the half dollar series to attribute correctly. The introduction of steam power caused many changes at the mint, among them the ability to hub entire dies and to strike coins with reeded edges. A must book for the collector of early U.S. coinage, still available for around \$10.

Riddell, J.L. *A monograph of the silver dollar, good and bad, illustrated with facsimile figures of four hundred and twenty five varieties of dollars, and eighty seven varieties of half dollars, including the genuine, the low standard, and the counterfeit, giving their weight, quality, and exact value, and enabling the inexperience to detect those which are spurious*. New Orleans, 1845. 364 pp., ill.

Just the title of the book tells you everything you need to know about its contents. In effect the book is a counterfeit detector for coins. Riddell was in an exceptional position to write this book, being not only a professor of chemistry but also the melter and refiner at the New Orleans branch mint. The only auction record I can find for this quite rare book is \$900. The 1969 reprint from the Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico is available for around \$35,

(to be continued)

The brown book

by Frank Calvin

(conclusion)

Twelfth edition c1978. A new title and a new format mark this edition. The range of the catalog, 1850-1964, was added to the title; the book now became soft-cover, with so-called perfect binding replacing the old sewn sections. The page size was increased to 5.5 x 8.2 inches.

Thirteenth edition c1983. Apparently Western Publishing gave up on the brown book; this, the last edition, was published under license by The Coin and Currency Institute, Inc., and the title page states "Revised and Edited by Arthur L. Friedberg and Ira S. Friedberg". The card covers are tan rather than brown. An ill-considered change to the format was the adoption of a sans-serif typeface, reducing the readability of the text portions.

There was an associate editor, four men achieved the rank of consulting editor, thirty six men and two women comprised the editorial board, and thirty eight people were credited with contributing to this and previous editions. Richard Yeoman revised his preface to include remarks about the growth of the popularity of world coin collecting in the United States, stating, "After more than half a century of involvement with the coin field, I must confess to having always retained a strong interest in coins of the world, as opposed to those of a particular country."

David L. Ganz contributed "An appreciation of R.S. Yeoman" to the book, with biographic and bibliographic notes on that gentleman. Ganz concluded with a prophecy, "It is a tribute to Richard Yeoman that this book is now in its 13th edition, more than a quarter of a century after it was first published. It seems obvious that it is a book destined to be revised and remain in print as the true encyclopedia of the field for many years to come."

It seems more difficult to find second-hand copies of the thirteenth edition than of the twelfth, indicating that by 1983 both dealers and collectors were buying Krause and Mishler's *Standard catalog of world coins* rather than Yeoman's *A catalog of modern world coins*. A set of the brown book, then, consists of thirteen volumes:

[illegible]

Walter E. Olmstead										5		
Ken Olmsted				10	9	8						
Col. Charles K. Panish*	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5			
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Mary Anne Randel	13 ²											
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Ed Reiter	13											
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Ted Uhl		11								
Hasan Rasim Us				9	8	7	6			
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J.B. Westergaard	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
R.B. White	13	12								
Mr. & Mrs. R.B. White*		11	10							
Nelson M. Whitman	13 ²									
Robert C. Willey*		11	10	9	8	7	6			
Charles Wyatt	13 ²	12								
Chin Lin Yao	13 ²									
Randolph Zander*		11	10	9	8	7	6			
Jeffrey S. Zarit	13	12	11	10						
Leslie Zeller				9	8					

* See entry in Clain-Stefanelli bibliography

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2. Editorial board
3. Editor
4. Coordinating editor
5. Project supervisor
6. Associate editor

Book review

by O.C.

REMY Bourne. *American numismatic periodicals 1860-1960: an illustrated collectors guide*. Minneapolis: Ramm Communications, Inc., 1990. Two volumes, 616 leaves, 22 cm.

This work, the result of five or ten years of intermittent labor by a bibliomaniac, is the record of the issues of periodicals dealing entirely or in part with numismatics in his outstanding collection of numismatic ephemera, combined with bibliographic information from E.D. Bacon's 1911 *Catalogue of the philatelic library of the Earl of Crawford*.

The two volumes are identical in format, stacks of 8 ½ by 11 inch leaves printed on only one side, held together by plastic side stitching in gold-stamped, plastic-covered boards, untrimmed. It is to be hoped that this construction is durable, since the cost of binding so many loose sheets would be prohibitively high.

A.N.P. has not one but three introductions, by John W. Adams, Q. David Bowers, and Ken Lowe. President Lowe's contribution is an essay fourteen pages long which offers an appreciative survey of the field of house organs and other numismatic magazines. The author's preface is followed by what is called an illustration index but is in fact pointers to the leaves which contain illustrations. It is not in alphabetical order. Next comes the table of contents, useful for checking whether the volumes are complete (the review copy is 105% complete, containing two 1920 sections).

The entries in this catalog are arranged more or less chronologically, grouped into decades (technically a decade is any period of ten years). The first leaf of volume two, for example, is numbered 1910.1. The first leaf for an entry usually contains a half-tone illustration from the periodical in question, often the cover or page one of the first number published, often with details of publisher, editor, format, and dates of publication. This is followed by one leaf or more containing a line for each issue of the periodical. Page columns are headed Volume, No., Month, Year, Total Pages, etc. At the foot of such pages there is space for footnotes, comments, and whole number of issues of the

subject periodical. In most cases where Mr Bourne's holdings are incomplete, blank lines are supplied to be filled in after missing numbers have been obtained.

Apart from the information taken from the Crawford catalog (properly credited), the author has recorded only data from the issues in his own collection, not utilizing the resources of, for example, the New York Public Library or the Union Catalog to determine such things as the lives of the periodicals. An enormous amount of research would be required to fill in the blanks, but it would increase the value of this guide for collectors.

The quality of the halftone illustrations varies from very good to abominable. In the review copy leaf 1900.19 contains a practically solid black rectangle, illustrating the fact that the process film used for making these halftones cannot distinguish between black type and a red cover. It would perhaps have been better to use some process other than halftone for these reproductions. The typographic interest of these illustrations is great. Here are examples of United States printing throughout a period of one hundred years, from the period when many printers thought that the more typefaces they could put on a page the better (see the illustration of *One dime*, 1880.95) to the time of the workmanlike *Whitman numismatic journal*. The title of this magazine is set in an interesting type, closely resembling a German typeface, Breite Römisch, from Schriftgiesserei Flinsch, Frankfurt a. M. but with a few small changes:

ONE DIME.

An index to American numismatic periodicals
(There are illustrations for asterisked titles)

The Alabama collector	1880.87
The amateur record	1870.35
The amateur's journal	1880.1
The American boys	1880.25
American coin and stamp review	1870.3
The American collector*	1910.3
American journal of numismatics*	1865.3
The American journal of philately and coin advertiser*	1870.57
American numismatic herald*	1870.68
American numismatist(*)	1880.68
The American numismatist*	1880.110
American stamp Mercury and numismatist*	1865.22
Avocations*	1930.19
Brock's attic*	1940.32
Bulletin* (Frank Causey Wilson)	1940.14
C. C. news*	1960.57
Cab's coin collector*	1960.13
Cabinet and album*	1890.22
The capital city philatelist*	1880.37
The centinel*	1950.39
The centry*	1950.45
Chariton gazette*	1880.64
The Chemung review*	1880.53
Chicago collectors monthly*	1900.25
Classified coin news*	1960.5
The coast coiner*	1950.11
Coin ad medium*	1960.121
The coin advertiser*	1960.123
Coin & medal bulletin*	1910.9
The coin and medal bulletin, new series*	1920.7
The coin and stamp*	1890.20
Coin and stamp journal	1865.1
The coin and stamp journal	1865.20
Coin and stamp journal*	1870.17
The coin & stamp journal*	1870.39
The coin and stamp journal of Brooklyn*	1870.49
Coin bulletin*	1960.100
The coin cabinet(*)	1900.19
The coin cabinet*	1960.69
The coin circular*	1870.21
The coin collector*	1950.1
The coin collector's journal*	1870.27
The coin collector's journal*	1890.18
Coin collectors classified*	1960.76
Coin collectors digest*	1940.18
Coin collectors digest*	1960.55

Coin collectors news (see C.C. News)	1880.3
Coin collectors' of the United States illustrated guide*	1880.3
The coin dealer*	1960.47
The coin dealer's journal*	1960.125
Coin investor*	1960.67
The coin journal*	1870.53
The coin journal*	1960.1
The coin market report*	1960.87
Coin monthly*	1960.136
Coin news*	1950.41
Coin news*	1960.3
Coin press*	1960.18
The coin press magazine*	1950.47
Coin shopper*	1960.113
The coin shopper*	1960.45
The coin shopper*	1960.74
Coin swapper*	1960.71
Coin talk magazine*	1950.50
Coin topics*	1930.15
Coin trade advertiser*	1960.20
Coin traders*	1960.90
Coin wholesaler*	1960.51
The coinnoisseur*	1960.96
Coins magazine*	1960.26
Coins unlimited*	1950.31
Cointact*	1960.32
The collector*	1890.6
The collector*	1900.17
The collector exchange*	1880.106
The collector's advertiser*	1930.11
The collector's bi-monthly directory*	1880.66
Collector's blue book*	1910.7
The collector's guide*	1880.5
The collector's journal*	1880.89
The collector's journal	1900.5
The collector's journal*	1960.134
The collector's ledger*	1880.100
The collector's ledger* (= 1880.100)	1880.108
The collector's library table*	1880.7
The collector's news	1870.62
Collector's news	1870.23
The collector's news-advertiser*	1930.13
The collector's notes*	1920.9
Collector's weekly*	1960.131
The collectors magazine*	1880.104
The collectors notebook*	1900.13
The collectors' aid	1870.64
Collectors' den*	1960.129
The collectors' monthly*	1880.85
The collectors' world	1870.55
The collectors' world*	1880.91

The colonial newsletter*	1960.9
Common sense*	1880.78
Crayton's occasional*	1880.39
The crown & taler*	1950.26
The curio*	1890.35
The curiosity cabinet*	1870.12
The curiosity collector*	1880.19
The curiosity collector*	1880.119
The curiosity hunter*	1870.9
The curiosity shop and antiquary*	1870.25
The curiosity world*	1880.70
The David Laties newsletter*	1960.28
The Decorah numismatic journal*	1870.19
Dixie coin & stamp news*	1950.14
The dixie coin news*	1960.7
The eastern collector*	1880.43
Eastern press*	1880.121
The elder magazine*	1910.1
The elder monthly*	1900.21
The emergency money collector*	1940.27
The empire city philatelist*	1880.9
The empire state philatelist and coin & curiosity collector	1880.76
The essay-proof journal*	1940.5
The exchange*	1880.45
Far east numismatic digest*	1950.29
The flying eaglet coin journal*	1950.18
The forum*	1960.109
The gazette*	1880.62
The golden state scientist	1880.74
Granite state philatelist*	1880.11
Gutttag's coin bulletin*	1920.13
Harzfeld's numismatic circular*	1870.45
The hawkeye state collector*	1880.93
The Hermes*	1880.41
Hobby news*	1920.11
The hobby reporter*	1940.16
The hobby spotlight*	1930.21
The hobby-rider*	1920.3
Hobby-swapper*	1930.1
The hobbyist*	1940.1
The home hobbiest*	1930.7
I want to buy (see comment, 1930.22)	
Illustrated: coins, tokens, medals*	1960.107
The independent philatelist*	1880.35
International currency collector*	1960.119
The Jersey coin journal*	1870.51
Katen koin kapers*	1940.34
Keim's hobby news*	1930.27
The Kentucky stamp magazine*	1880.102
The keystone stamp and coin gazette*	1880.47
Kosoff's coin bulletin*	1950.9

Δε kūriosiiti kabinet*	1870.1
The Long Island collector*	1880.51
Mason's buying and selling collector's coin catalog...*	1880.58
Mason's Coin and stamp collectors' magazine*	1865.16
Mason's coin collectors' herald*	1870.60
Mason's coin collectors' magazine, new series*	1890.3
Mason's monthly coin collectors' magazine*	1870.5
Mason's monthly illustrated coin collector's magazine...*	1880.29
Mason's quarterly coin collectors' magazine*	1870.7
Medallic monthly*	1960.115
Mehl's coin chronicle*	1930.23
Mehl's coin circular*	1920.5
Mehl's numismatic monthly*	1900.27
The metropolitan numismatic journal*	1960.16
Mexican coin news*	1960.98
The Michigan philatelist(*)	1890.29
Midwest coin collectors trading post*	1950.24
The Mohawk standard*	1880.81
Mountain states coin collector*	1960.80
The Nashville coin news	1880.23
National exchange	1890.12
The new pace*	1960.85
New York stamp and coin news	1900.9
The numis-market digest*	1930.17
Numisma* (the real McCoy)	1870.41
Numisma*	1930.25
Numisma*	1950.6
Numismatic advertiser*	1950.36
Numismatic bank*	1890.16
Numismatic classified bulletin*	1960.78
Numismatic dealers digest*	1940.20
Numismatic digest*	1960.30
Numismatic digest*	1960.127
Numismatic gallery monthly*	1940.24
The numismatic investment bulletin*	1960.53
The numismatic journal*	1870.47
Numismatic journal*	1960.22
Numismatic news*	1890.24
The numismatic philistine*	1900.33
Numismatic pilot to ancient coins...*	1870.37
Numismatic review*	1940.3
Numismatic scrapbook*	1930.9
Numismatic times and trends*	1960.11
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The numismatic traveler*	1960.117
The numismatist	1880.111
The old coin news*	1930.3
The old curiosity shop*	1880.14
Omaha monthly philatelist*	1900.3
One dime*	1880.95
Our American youth*	1880.31

Pace*	1960.59
Paper money*	1960.36
The Pennsylvania numismatist*	1890.33
The penny*	1960.41
Penny pincher*	1960.94
The philatelic press*	1940.7
Philatelic rays	1900.7
The philatelic weekly*	1890.31
The philatelic west*	1890.26
The philatelic west and camera news*	1890.37
Plain talk*	1880.49
Popular numismatic monthly*	1950.22
The postcard and stamp journal	1900.23
The prairie state philatelist*	1900.1
The progressive philatelist*	1890.1
Rainbow hobby news*	1940.29
The restrike*	1960.111
The southern collector*	1880.33
Southern collector*	1880.83
The spy glass*	1890.14
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The U. S. philatelist	1880.27
Universal exchange magazine*	1900.15
The western antiquarian*	1865.14
Western coin collector*	1960.82
Western coin journal*	1950.43
Whitman numismatic journal*	1960.63
World coin bulletin*	1950.52
The world coin news*	1930.5
You name it?*	1950.16
The youth's exchange	1890.10
The youth's ledger*	1880.5

The printer's devil

by Joel Orosz

It happens, it seems, in every coin catalog: "possibly from the Parmelee collection", "believed to be from the Seavey collection", "ex Bushnell (?)". How many times have you read conjectural pedigrees like these and wondered to yourself, "Why didn't early collectors keep better records?" Certainly an educated collector would value any coin more highly if it really was at one time the property of Joseph Mickley. As it is, however, we shall never know the provenance of many coins for sure because our predecessors were too casual about documenting their holdings.

It seems fair to say, however, that bibliophiles without sin in this area should heave the first filing cabinet. I wager that very few of us take the time to make careful records of the books we buy. The thrill is in the chase, and once the book is purchased the joy is in the reading. There is little allure in the mundane task of recording the details of the purchase: from whom? when? how much? and so on.

Well, what of it? Does the fate of the nation hinge upon whether years later you cannot remember whether you bought a certain book from Katen or Kolbe, David or Durst? Will thousands die if you cannot recall if it cost \$25 or \$35? Will cataclysm befall if you cannot recall whether a book first graced your shelves in 1972 or 1982?

The answer, of course, is "No!", but something real and valuable is lost if we don't keep records. There are, as we all know, compelling economic reasons for doing so: such data are the basis for insurance coverage of our collections and essential for tax purposes when they are sold. While granting its importance, I have always held with Carlyle that economics is the dismal science, so enough said about that.

The real reason for keeping careful records is that it is important to perpetuate the provenance of books. In my library is a book which was once in the library of Sylvester Sage Crosby. There is no evidence in the book itself that this was the case. It is only because the Crosby relative who inherited the book kept a record of it and the collector who bought the book from her documented this fact that the link is established to one of the numismatic

immortals. Those past custodians have established a pedigree; as the current owner it is my responsibility to maintain and continue it, passing it on unbroken to the next owner.

Everyone agrees that association copies like this one should have their provenance carefully preserved. Even the humblest volumes, however, have histories; they are sold at auction, given as gifts, inherited from relatives, pass through the hands of collectors who represent the good, the bad, and the ugly. Books with even modest pedigrees are simply more interesting than those without.

Fie upon you if you scribble the information in the book itself; only those precious few among us who are destined for the numismatic pantheon when we go to our reward can actually improve a volume by such acts. Lesser mortals do, however, owe it to their posterity to turn scribe long enough to record the essentials.

The sages of Madison Avenue have recently formulated two bits of wisdom which should guide our action regarding provenance, "it's the right thing to do", so, "just do it!" Ω

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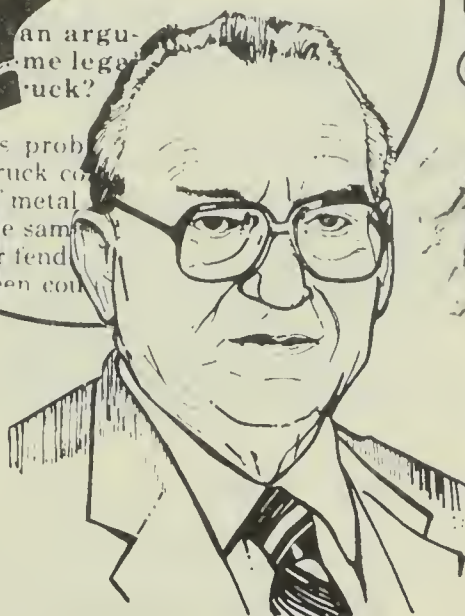
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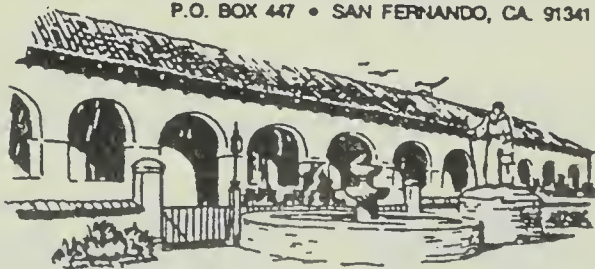
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Spell it in American!

Too many years have slipped by for reliable recall, but I'm sure I would have failed my spelling tests in grade school had I spelled catalog with the British "ue". I do know I wasn't taught to spell labor or neighbor with an "u", and I'd bet that not one native born/educated American cataloger was taught to spell catalog with "ue". I'd wager also that no American cataloger uses the word, colour, or any of the others with the pervasive "u" unless writing strictly for a British audience.

*Catalog is the preferred usage in all three of my American dictionaries, and the **Chicago Manual** and **AP&UPI Press Style-books** agree. Is there public demand for second preference? No!*

Why the pretense?

I don't know.

But I suspect American "uers" believe they inspire snob appeal, which infers larger sales. They try to emulate Professor Higgins but they can't because they're not U-Brits. Genuine Professor Alan Ross wasn't writing of the usage of "u" in words when he put Brits into U or non-U groups, i.e., Upper and non-Upper social classes, but it appears that some "uers" want to twist it that way, while I think something else has been twisted. Or, are they just ashamed of plain ol' American English?

A non-U, non-ue CATALOG, List the Sixth, 1600+ items, will be ready in April. Call or write for (an) Ur-copy; ewe might find something that belongs in ewer collection. It's free,

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